

REMARKS

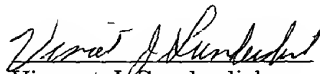
Entry of the amendments to the specification and abstract before examination of the application is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment or this application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

It is respectfully requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and shortages in other fees, be charged, or any overpayment in fees be credited, to the Account of Evenson, McKeown, Edwards & Lenahan, P.L.L.C., Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket No. 622ZI/48609CP).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/19/01


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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A waveguide plate and a process for making the waveguide plate with a plate-like glass substrate (1), carrying a waveguiding layer (2), with at least one coupling grating on the surface carrying said waveguiding layer (2), which coupling grating is formed as a grating of lines with a period between 150 nm and 1000 nm, the extension of said grating being at least 5 cm with lines parallel to one another, wherein the coupling angle (θ) varies by not more than 0.1°/cm along a line of said grating and wherein the absolute value of the deviation of the coupling angle (θ) on said waveguide plate, from a predefined desired value, does not exceed 0.5°. The deviation from the average value of the coupling angle does not exceed 0.3°, preferably not 0.15° on the whole waveguide plate. The waveguide plate is suitable as part of a sensor platform and of an arrangement of sample compartments for chemo- and bioanalytical investigations in order to produce a coupling grating formed as a line grating with a grating period between 100 nm and 2500 nm.

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